

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045328

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT KHARTOUM 0748 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO ADDIS ABABA CAIRO MOGADISCIO NDJAMENA TRIPOLI 21 FEB 78

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0748

E.O. 11652: GDSY
TAGS: PEPR, SU, ET
SUBJECT: SUDANESE PEACEMAKING IN THE HORN

1. AT PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION FOR SUDAN-US BUSINESS COUNCIL
YESTERDAY, FEBRUARY 20, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ABUL QASSIM ASKED
ME TO STEP ASIDE WITH HIM SO HE COULD TELL ME ABOUT SUDANESE
EFFORTS IN THE HORN.

2. ABUL QASSIM SAID HE STILL PLANNED TO LEAD A SUDANESE
DELEGATION TO ADDIS. ETHIOPIANS STILL HAD NOT SET A DATE,
BUT SUDANGOV WAS NOW TONING DOWN ERITREAN AND OTHER
ETHIOPIAN DISSIDENT BROADCASTS. "WE WILL KEEP KNOCKING ON
THEIR DOOR UNTIL THEY LET US IN," SAID ABUL QASSIM.
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SUDANESE HOPED TO PERSUADE ETHIOPIANS THAT AFRICAN PROBLEMS
SHOULD BE SOLVED BY AFRICANS. ONCE AFRICAN SOLUTION WAS
IN SIGHT, ABUL QASSIM WAS CONFIDENT THAT ETHIOPIANS WOULD
"BIFF" THE RUSSIANS AND CUBANS AND KICK THEM OUT.

3. ABUL QASSIM SAID HE HAD READ THE U.S. THOUGHTS ABOUT
THE ELEMENTS OF A SOLUTION WHICH I HAD CONVEYED TO

FRANCIS DENG. HE WANTED ME TO KNOW THAT SUDANGOV AGREED WITH THEM ENTIRELY. IN FACT, SUDANESE HAD ALREADY COUNSELED SIAD BARRE TO ANNOUNCE HIS WILLINGNESS TO WITHDRAW HIS FORCES FROM THE OGADEN.

4. SUDANESE WERE THINKING ALONG LINES OF A FEDERATED STATE IN ETHIOPIA WITH LARGE MEASURE OF AUTONOMY FOR REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS IN OGADEN AND ERITREA. ON LATTER, ABUL QASSIM EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SUDANESE WOULD ULTIMATELY BE ABLE TO BRING ERITREANS TOGETHER AND TO PERSUADE THEM TO ACCEPREFING, IN VERY GENERAL JATERMS, ON DAVID AARON'S MEETIN 285# .3,&8 57.

6. ABUL QASSIM DISCUSSED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHAD (SEPTEL) AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT NATIONWIDE CEASE-FIRE AND POLITICAL RECONCILIATION WOULD SOON BE COMING INTO EFFECT. HE ASSURED ME SUDAN WOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK PEACEFUL AND AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS. SUCH SOLUTIONS WOULD DEPRIVE THE RUSSIANS OF THEIR BASIS FOR INTERVENTION ON THE CONTINENT.

7. I SAID I WAS SURE THAT MY GOVERNMENT GREATLY APPRECIATED THE EFFORTS THE SUDAN WAS MAKING.
BERGUS
UNQUOTE VANCE

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